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Saturday, March 7, 1953

Moved this morning from the France et Choiseul (with lamentations from the sweet chambermaid who is a fervent believer in the European Army) to 17 rue Alfred Dehodencq, which Harry Labouisse had evacuated this morning. It is an attractive house with a garden large enough to be convenient for the boys, especially since they immediately discovered a cat to be their next door neighbor. Robert, who has always ascribed to Brucie a supernatural intelligence, greeted us with tears. Albert, the new butler, who was once with the Bohlens, tossed off a dinner that would have done credit to a professional chef. Our linen appeared from Versailles and by nightfall we were at home.

We had lunch with Denise and René Mayer. René and I had a long talk about EDC, as well as the difficulties he expects to encounter in his Washington conversations the end of this month. In spite of the burdens imposed on a Prime Minister, his health appears better than when I last saw him a year ago -- his ulcers are for the moment quiescent. He is an impressive man, realistic, courageous, individualistic. Charming Denise is delighted over the progress made in her favorite campaign -- to save Versailles from irreparable dilapidation.

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